## **COMMUNITY HEALTH PROMOTION & EDUCATION**



707 NORTH ARMSTRONG PLACE BOISE, ID 83704-0825 TEL. (208) 327-8547 FAX (208) 327-8610

www.cdhd.org

To prevent and treat disease and disability; to promote healthy lifestyles; and to protect and promote the health and quality of our environment.

January 22, 2001

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Joanne Graff

Office of Community Health Promotion & Education

(208) 327-8543

e-mail: jgraff@phd4.state.id.us

## Idahoans Deserve a Better Seat Belt Law

Idahoans are smart. We're smart enough to live in a beautiful state where we enjoy a high quality of life. So consider this:

States with standard safety restraint laws have, on the average, 17% higher seat belt use than those that don't.

It is estimated that one out of two unbuckled adults killed in car crashes would have lived had they been buckled up.

More than 75 percent of Idahoans killed in motor vehicle crashes last year were not buckled up.

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for Idahoans ages 5 - 34.

Sgt. Rich Fuhriman, Boise Police Department STEP officer says, "In my job, it's not uncommon for me to respond to several car crashes every day. The statistics don't lie; it's a proven fact that seatbelts do save lives. As a sworn police officer, it is my duty to uphold the law. Drafting new seatbelt legislation is a job I'll leave up to Idaho Lawmakers. In the meantime, I will continue to educate people of the advantages of wearing their seatbelts. I will always be in full support of anything that will help people better understand that buckling up can save needless death and injury."

It's time for a change; Idaho deserves a better seat belt law. Smart Idahoans will buckle up.

For more information about Central District Health Department, visit our web site at www.cdhd.org.

###